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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,645	04/02/2004	Michael D. Pashley	US000386A	1083

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
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EXAMINER
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NEGRON, ISMAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/816,645	PASHLEY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Ismael Negron	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 April 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/2/04</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. Applicant's preliminary amendment filed on December 21, 2005 has been entered. No claim has been amended. Claims 1-18 have been cancelled. Claims 19-38 have been added. Claims 19-38 are still pending in this application, with claims 19, 37 and 38 being independent.

### *Title*

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Side-Emitting Illumination Device ~~Red for Use with an LED-Based Light Engine.~~

### *Abstract*

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it uses phrases which can be implied. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

4. The Examiner respectfully suggests amending the abstract as follows:

~~According to this invention, a~~ **A** side-emitting illumination device for ~~uniformly distributing light is composed of~~ **including** an LED light source, a light-transmitting rod ~~which permits total internal reflection, and~~ outcoupling material affixed to an outer surface of the rod. Light enters the rod at one end and travels along the rod by total internal reflection. Light that hits the outcoupling material is **directed towards a side of the rod, angularly distributed based on the width of the outcoupling material** **determining the angular distribution of the side-emitted light.**

### ***Drawings***

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "6" has been used to designate different parts in different embodiments. See figures 1 (used to reference round rod), 4 (used to reference square rod) and 5 (used to reference generally square rod with round edges).

6. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the rod being a flexible rod (as recited in Claim 23), the rod being an elliptical rod (as recited in Claim 30), or the rod having a combination of straight and curved edges that vary in configuration along the length of the rod (as recited in Claim 33) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims. No new matter should be entered.

7. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Specification***

8. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: no brief description of figure 3-5 is provided, as required by 37 F.C.R. 1.74. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

9. Claim 22 is objected to because of the following informalities: it recites the limitation "*the array of red, green and blue LEDs*" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

The cited lack of antecedent instances do not amount to indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, since it is readily apparent that the claims are referring back to the previously recited plurality of LEDs including a red, a green and a blue LED, however, appropriate correction is required to place the claims in proper form for allowance.

10. The Examiner respectfully suggest amending Claim 22 as follows:

The side-emitting illumination device of claim 21, wherein the array of red, green and blue LEDs can be mixed to generate white light chromaticity.

### ***Double Patenting***

#### *Statutory*

A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

11. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

12. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 2 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

13. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 3 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

14. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 4 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

15. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 5 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

16. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 6 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

17. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 7 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

18. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 8 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

19. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 9 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

20. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 10 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

21. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 11 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

22. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 12 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

23. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 13 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

24. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 14 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

25. Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 15 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.



26. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 16 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.
27. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 17 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.
28. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 18 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. This is a double patenting rejection.

#### *Non-Statutory*

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

29. Claim 37 is rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,783,269. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized the patented LED light source as being a light source (as claimed).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

30. Claims 19-29, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by MASUTANI et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,488,397).

31. MASUTANI et al. discloses a side-emitting device having:

- **a light source (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38),** Figure 1, reference number 3;
- **a light transmitting rod (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38),** Figure 1, reference number 4;

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- **the rod permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38), column 2, lines 60-63;**
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38), Figure 2, reference number 5;**
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the rod (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38), column 2, lines 56-59;**
- **the width of the outcoupling material controlling the angular distribution of light leaving the side of the rod (as recited in claims 19, 37 and 38), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45;**
- **the light source including a plurality of LED (as recited in Claim 20), column 4, lines 1-3;**
- **the plurality of LED including at least a red, a green and a blue LED (as recited in Claim 21), column 4, lines 16-18;**
- **the red, green and blue LED when mixed generating white light (as recited in Claim 21), inherent;**
- **the red, green and blue LEDs being capable of being mixed to generate white light chromaticity (as recited in Claim 22), inherent;**
- **the red, green and blue LEDs being capable of being mixed to generate dynamic color effects (as recited in Claim 23), inherent;**

- **the rod being a flexible rod (as recited in Claim 24), column 2 and 3, lines 60-67 and 1-5, respectively;**
- **the rod being a rigid rod (as recited in Claim 25), column 2 and 3, lines 60-67 and 1-5, respectively;**
- **the outcoupling material being a paint (as recited in Claim 26), column 3, line 6;**
- **the paint being white paint (as recited in Claim 27), column 3, lines 6-8;**
- **the white paint being distributed in such a way as to control the angular distribution of the light leaving the rod (as recited in Claim 28), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45; and**
- **the white paint being distributed in such a way as to ensure uniform light distribution along the length of the rod (as recited in Claim 29), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45.**

32. Regarding the use of the verb **can** (as used in claims 22 and 23), the applicant is advised that it has been held that the recitation that an element is capable of performing a function is not a positive limitation, but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138. In addition, note the use of **when** in Claim 21.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

33. Claims 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over MASUTANI et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,488,397).

34. MASUTANI et al. discloses a side-emitting device having:

- **a light source (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 3;**
- **a light transmitting rod (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 4;**
- **the rod permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 60-63;**
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 2, reference number 5;**
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 56-59; and**
- **the width of the outcoupling material controlling the angular distribution of light leaving the side of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45.**

35. MASUTANI et al. discloses all the limitations of the claims, except:

- the rod being an elliptical rod (as recited in Claim 30);
- the rod being a square rod (as recited in Claim 31);
- the rod being having combination of square and curve edges (as recited in Claim 32); and
- the combination of square and curve edges varying along the length of the rod (as recited in Claim 33).

36. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to shape the rod as an elliptical rod (as recited in Claim 30), a square rod (as recited in Claim 31), or as a rod having combination of square and curve edges (as recited in Claim 32), such combination of edges varying along the length of the rod (as recited in Claim 33), since it has been held by the courts that a change in shape or configuration, without any criticality, is nothing more than one of numerous shapes that one of ordinary skill in the art will find obvious to provide based on the suitability for the intended final application. See *In re Dailey*, 149 USPQ 47 (CCPA 1976). In this case, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select a specific shape as necessitated by the particular requirements of a specific application, as admitted by the applicant (see pages 5 and 6, lines 19-24 and 1-4, respectively).

37. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over MASUTANI et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,488,397) in view of ASHALL (U.S. Pat. 5,390,466).

38. MASUTANI et al. discloses a side-emitting device having:

- **a light source (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 3;**
- **a light transmitting rod (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 4;**
- **the rod permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 60-63;**
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 2, reference number 5;**
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 56-59; and**
- **the width of the outcoupling material controlling the angular distribution of light leaving the side of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45.**

39. MASUTANI et al. discloses all the limitations of the claims, except the outcoupling material including a combination of white paint and fine dots with varying packing density (as recited in Claim 34).

40. ASHALL discloses a side-emitting panel having:

- **a light source (as recited in Claim 19)**, Figure 1, reference number 21;
- **a light transmitting panel**, Figure 1, reference number 10;
- **the panel permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in Claim 19)**, as evidenced by Figure 1;
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in Claim 19)**, Figure 1, reference number 13;
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the panel (as recited in Claim 19)**, column 3, lines 15-17;
- **the outcoupling material including a combination of white paint and fine dots (as recited in Claim 34)**, column 3, lines 56-59; and
- **the combination of white paint and fine dots having a varying packing density (as recited in Claim 34)**, column 3, lines 59 and 60.

41. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to include a combination of white paint and fine dots with varying packing density (as recited in Claim 34) as the outcoupling material of MASUTANI et al. to be able to provide a uniform light emission from the side of the rod, as per the teachings of ASHALL.



42. Claims 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over MASUTANI et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,488,397) in view of REID et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,267,492).

43. MASUTANI et al. discloses a side-emitting device having:

- **a light source (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 3;**
- **a light transmitting rod (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 1, reference number 4;**
- **the rod permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 60-63;**
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in Claim 19), Figure 2, reference number 5;**
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), column 2, lines 56-59; and**
- **the width of the outcoupling material controlling the angular distribution of light leaving the side of the rod (as recited in Claim 19), as evidenced by column 3, lines 38-45.**

44. MASUTANI et al. discloses all the limitations of the claims, except a mirror located at the end of the rod away from the light source (as recited in Claim 35), such mirror reflecting light that travels the entire length of the rod (as recited in Claim 36).

45. REID et al. discloses a side-emitting device having:

- **a light source (as recited in Claim 19)**, Figure 1, reference number 10;
- **a light transmitting rod (as recited in Claim 19)**, Figure 1, reference number 20;
- **the rod permitting substantially total internal reflection (as recited in Claim 19)**, column 5, lines 36-43;
- **an outcoupling material (as recited in Claim 19)**, Figure 3B, reference number 226;
- **the outcoupling material being affixed to the outer surface of the rod (as recited in Claim 19)**, column 6, lines 33-36; and
- **a mirror (as recited in Claim 35)**, Figure 6A, reference number 626;
- **the mirror being located at the end of the rod away from the light source (as recited in Claim 35)**, column 9, lines 50 and 51; and
- **the mirror reflecting light that travels the entire length of the rod (as recited in Claim 36)**, column 9, lines 50-54.

46. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to include the end mirror of REID et al. in the rod of MASUTANI et al. to be able to reflect back along the rod light that traveled the entire length of the rod, as per the teachings of REID et al..

***Relevant Prior Art***

47. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Joyce et al.** (U.S. Pat. 4,231,077), **Yamashita et al.** (U.S. Pat. 4,733,332), **Chujko** (U.S. Pat. 5,027,259), **Butterworth** (U.S. Pat. 6,139,174), **Nakamura et al.** (U.S. Pat. 6,268,600) and **Mezei et al.** (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2004/0066659) disclose side-emitting illumination devices including a light source, a light transmitting rod and an outcoupling material for directing light toward the side of the rod.

***Conclusion***

48. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Negron whose telephone number is (571) 272-2376. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea, can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The facsimile machine number for the Art Group is (571) 273-8300.

49. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications maybe obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For

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more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) toll-free at 866-217-9197.



Sandra O'Shea  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800



Ismael Negrón  
Examiner  
AU 2875